

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Response to Office Action is being sent via the USPS Express Mail label no: EV254518505US to the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 2 day of January 2003.

By: Steve Clemmons  
Steve Clemmons

# CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA)

## REQUEST TRANSMITTAL

Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing.

(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d))

CHECK BOX, if applicable:

DUPLICATE

Address to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box CPA  
Washington, DC 20231

Attorney Docket No.  
of Prior Application

200-0500

First Named Inventor

Daniel J. Ondras

Examiner Name

George R. Koch

Group Art Unit

1734

Express Mail Label No.

EV254518505US

This is a request for a ☒ continuation or ☐ divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d),  
(continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09 / 544,423,  
filed on 04/06/2000, entitled METHOD FOR FORMING A JOINT

### NOTES

**FILING QUALIFICATIONS:** The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 CFR 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 371. Effective May 29, 2000, a CPA may only be filed in a utility or a plant application if the prior nonprovisional application was filed before May 29, 2000. A CPA may be filed in a design application regardless of the filing date of the prior application. See "Request for Continued Examination Practice changes to and Provisional Application Practice," Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office (Apr. 11, 2000).

**C-I-P NOT PERMITTED:** A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).

**EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION:** The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 CFR 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

**ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION:** The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 122 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning, the other application or applications in the file jacket.

**35 U.S.C. 120 STATEMENT:** In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 CFR 1.78(a).

**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

1. ☒ Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on 5/10/02 under 37 CFR 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
2. ☐ A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
3. This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 CFR 1.53(d)(4).
  - a. ☐ **DELETE** the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. ☐ The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4. ☐ A new power of attorney or authorization of agent (PTO/SB/81) is enclosed.
5. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed: 01/08/2003 AYONDAF1 00000127 031723 09544423
  - a. ☐ PTO-1449 01 FC:1006 750.00 CH
  - b. ☐ Copies of IDS Citations

[Page 1 of 2]

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c) or (j))	8	-20* =	0	x \$ 18 =	\$ 0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b) or (i))	1	-3** =	0	x \$ 84 =	\$ 0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 CFR 1.16(d)) <input type="checkbox"/>				+ \$ 0 =	\$ 0.00
				BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16)	\$ 740.00
				Total of above Calculations =	\$ 740.00
Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 CFR 1.27). <input type="checkbox"/>					\$ 0.00
* Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent. ** Reissue independent claims over original patent.				TOTAL =	\$ 740.00

6. ☐ Small entity status: Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
7. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge the following fees to Deposit Account No. 03 - 1723:
- a. ☒ Fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.
- b. ☐ Fees required under 37 CFR 1.17.
- c. ☐ Fees required under 37 CFR 1.18.
8. ☐ A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
9. ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
10. ☐ Applicant requests suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103(b) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (not to exceed 3 months) and the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) is enclosed.
11. ☐ New Attorney Docket Number, if desired \_\_\_\_\_  
[Prior application Attorney Docket Number will carryover to this CPA unless a new Attorney Docket Number has been provided herein.]
12. a. ☐ Receipt For Facsimile Transmitted CPA (PTO/SB/29A)
- b. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (Should be specifically itemized, See MPEP 503)
13. ☒ Other: Response to Office Action of 10/01/02

**NOTE:**

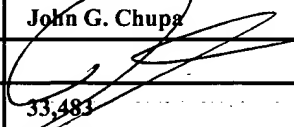
The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this CPA  
UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided below.

**14. NEW CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Labelor ☒ New correspondence address below

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

Name	John G. Chupa				
	Law Offices of John Chupa & Associates, P.C.				
Address	28535 Orchard Lake Road				
	Suite 50				
City	Farmington Hills	State	MI	Zip Code	48334
Country	USA	Telephone	248-324-7787	Fax	248-324-7784

**15. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	John G. Chupa
Signature	
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,483
Date	01/02/2003